

PRESS RELEASE**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****April 20, 2006****The Hilliard Foundation & Corning Community College Partner to Support Advanced Manufacturing in the Southern Tier***Major Gifts Campaign Receives \$25,000 Donation to Establish The Hilliard Foundation Scholarship Fund*

Corning Community College's Development Foundation has announced that its first-ever Major Gifts Campaign, *From Past to Future Generations...Investing in a Strong Community*, has received \$25,000 from The Hilliard Foundation for the establishment of The Hilliard Foundation Scholarship Fund. The endowed Fund will insure the continuation of a \$1,000 per year scholarship in perpetuity to support machinists.

Applicants must be a graduate of a high school district from the Southern Tier/Finger Lakes area of New York or the Northern Tier of Pennsylvania and must be pursuing an academic program in machine tool technology or a related program. Applications will be made available in the spring semester with \$500 to be awarded for the fall semester. An additional \$500 will be awarded in the spring semester pending sufficient academic achievement.

In today's environment, the machinist is an integral part of an advanced manufacturing team which analyzes processes, estimates costs, schedules production and programs automated machines, which are factors necessary to ensure a continuous refinement and improvement of the manufacturing process. With this involvement comes the knowledge and pride of having an immediate impact on, and control over, quality. Quality and productivity are critical factors in today's global economy.

"We appreciate the performance of the students we have had in the program," added Nelson Mooers van den Blink, President, The Hilliard Foundation, and Chairman, CEO and Treasurer of The Hilliard Corporation. "They have demonstrated their ability to bring improvements to our operation."

Founded in 1905, The Hilliard Corporation has evolved from a one-product business into a special applications engineering company serving customers worldwide. Independently-owned for four generations in Elmira, NY the company has grown and prospered for nearly a century. The Hilliard Corporation products offer a broad line of motion control products, oil filtration and reclaiming equipment, starters for industrial gas, diesel engines and gas turbines, and plate and frame filter presses used in the food and beverage industry.

"CCC is dedicated to training skilled workers to meet industry demand," commented Dr. Floyd Amann, CCC President. "The Hilliard Corporation has been a longtime partner of CCC's and recognizes the value of investing in their employees and the community they serve."

CCC offers an associate in applied science degree in machine tool technology which prepares students to become machinists capable of operating a vast variety of machine tools from basic lathes to advanced computer numerically controlled machining centers. In today's highly automated, high precision environment, the machinist needs an intimate knowledge of mathematics, precision measurement, CNC programming, communications and presentation skills. Machinists must understand the working properties of metals such as steel, cast iron and aluminum and the impact heat treating has on their properties. They must be able to read complicated blueprints, translating these images into machined objects.

As of April, the Campaign has raised \$4 million in cash in pledges from private sources including 100 percent participation by the CCC Regional Board of Trustees, Development Foundation board members and Alumni Association board members. Combined with the availability of state matching funds for portions of private sources, over \$6.4 million raised to date indicates that the Foundation's goal of \$7 million is attainable.

In January 2005, the CCC Development Foundation, a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation, launched the Major Gifts Campaign to help the region resolve challenges and capitalize on opportunities. The Campaign offers an opportunity to invest in the future of our region by increasing access and opportunity, providing seed money to initiate new programs and to enhance quality of life. A listing of scholarship opportunities is available at www.corning-cc.edu/future/financialaid/Scholarships.php.

Initiatives include *Access and Opportunity*: Outreach and Scholarships; *Program Growth and Development*: New Program Development and Technology Upgrades; *Community Enrichment/Quality of Life*: Infrastructure and Visiting Scholar Series.

For additional information, please call (607) 962-9458.